of plantation and 3785 kilo-metres of strip plantation and all the 23 districts of the State are covered under the programme. The progress reported by the State upto the end of June, 1988 is 28850 hectares of block plantation and 2945 kilo-metres of strip plantation. Districtwise figures are not reported.

Stock of coffee in the country

876. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a surplus stock of coffee in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps have been taken to step up export of coffee to exhaust the surplus stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) According to preliminary estimates the crop in 1988-89 is estimated to leave a surplus of about 20,000 tonnes of coffee at the end of 1989.

Efforts are being made to maximise exports of coffee. This is proposed to be achieved through the enhanced quota alloted to India by ICO this year, higher exports of coffee to non-quota countries through bilateral negotiations, and increase in exports of instant Coffee. Steps are simultaneously being taken to explore new markets for exports of Indian Coffee.

Trade between India and South East Asian countries

877. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the balance of trade position with South East Asian countries has remained adverse for India; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps have been envisaged for better trade performance with these countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) In the last two years, balance of trade position with Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore has been unfavourable to India, whereas it has been favourable to India with Thailand and Philippines.

(b) One of the reason for this trade imbalance is import of essential bulk commodities like edible oil, rubber, tin etc. Efforts to increase India's exports to these countries include bilateral trade discussions, participation in fairs/exhibitions, more frequent inter action of business communities, pursuing project exports etc.

Review of export performance

878. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the country's export performance during the first half of the current financial year;

(b) if so, what was the target set for the first half of the current financial year; and

(c) what achievements have been made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) The export performance is reviewed continously. Export Target is fixed for the full financial year and not on half yearly basis. For the current financial year 1988-89, the Export Target has been set at Rs. 18795 crores. According to the provisional statistics available from DGCI&S, India's exports during April-August, 1988 amounted to Rs. 7312.99 crores, as compared to Rs. 6074.67 crores during April-August, 1987.